

# Diversity of uses of tree species in agroforests of Guinée Forestière (Guinea, West Africa)



GUINÉE Forestière is located in the South West of the Republic of Guinea. This is a forest geobotanical area with a rural population. In this region, traditional agricultural systems preserve some diversity of forest species through agroforests. The area devoted to coffee-based agroforests is increasing over the last 25 years. Floristic composition, uses of forest species and farmers practices in these systems remain poorly understood.



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Timber wood in the coffee-based agroforest

## Methods

From botanical records conducted in 7 villages in the West of Guinée Forestière, chosen to represent the diversity of situation in the region, and surveys of the population of these villages on the uses of forest species, we suggest a first characterization of diverse uses of agroforest tree species of Guinée Forestière.



Preparation of the fruits of the oil palm

## Results

232 species have been inventoried, including 189 tree species and 43 shrub species. All these species have one or more uses. Among them, 75 tree and shrub species provide marketable products. The main uses listed were for food (45 species), medicinal (64 species), timber (47 species), firewood (86 species), fencing (19 species), handcraft (22 species), and significant social use (3 species e.g. *Cola nitida*).



Cola nuts on the regional market of N'Zérékoré

## Conclusions

Farmers in Guinée Forestière manage complex systems characterized by a great diversity of trees, filling a wide range of uses. Better knowledge of these cropping systems, their performances and their constraints is necessary to support local development in the region



Medicinal products from the coffee-based agroforests on the regional market



Traditional preparation of the oil palm



Fuelwood extract from the coffee-based agroforests

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